

Go to http://napoli.state.de.us/web_Prov_Vote_Inquiry/MainPage to determine if your provisional ballot was counted.

Absentee Voting

Absentee voting is permitted in both primary and general elections. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Department of Elections for your county by close of polls in order to be counted.

To obtain an absentee ballot, phone or write the Department of Elections for the county in which you reside in adequate time before the election. Otherwise, you may vote at the Department of Elections in the county in which you reside during scheduled hours before 12 noon on the day prior to the election. You may download an affidavit at http://electionsncc.delaware.gov/absentee_de/de_citizen.shtml#aff.

The Department of Elections for the counties will accept facsimile transmissions of affidavits for absentee ballots from all citizens. Ballots will not be faxed or emailed to voters, except that ballots may be emailed to military or overseas voters upon request.

Administrative Complaint Procedure

If a voter has a complaint about polling activity or any other issue, they can register their complaint at <http://elections.delaware.gov/services/voter/complaints.shtml>.

HOW DO I VOTE IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS?

School district elections are nonpartisan and are held to elect members to local Boards of Education or to decide school tax referenda. Polls are open from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Requirements

No registration is necessary, but voters must be:

- a citizen of the United States
- at least 18 years of age
- a resident of the school district

Voters must present proof of identity and residence. School Board elections for 2012 will be held on May 8, 2012. Tax referenda may be held as scheduled by the respective school district's Board of Education. For election date and polling places, check the newspaper, or contact the school district office or the Department of Elections for your county.

Absentee voting is permitted for all school district elections. To obtain an absentee ballot, phone or write your Department of Elections in adequate time before the election. You may also vote prior to the election at the Department of Elections office for your county during normal business hours no later than 12 noon the day before the election.

DIRECTORY

Department of Elections for Kent County

100 Enterprise Place, Suite 5
Dover, DE 19904
302-739-4498
<http://electionskc.delaware.gov>

Department of Elections for New Castle County

Carvel State Office Bldg.
820 N. French Street, Suite 400
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-577-3464
<http://electionsncc.delaware.gov>

Department of Elections for Sussex County

119 N. Race Street
PO Box 857
Georgetown, DE 19947
302-856-5367
<http://electionssc.delaware.gov>

State Election Commissioner

905 S. Governor's Avenue, Suite 170
Dover, DE 19904
302-739-4277
www.elections.delaware.gov

League of Women Voters of Delaware

2400 W. 17th St., Clash Wing
Room 1, Lower Level
Wilmington, DE 19806-1311
302-571-8948
Email: lwwde@voicenet.com
Website: www.lwwdelaware.org



Produced by the League of Women Voters, in partnership with AARP; www.aarp.org



This Way to the Voting Booth 2012 A Citizen's Guide to Registration and Voting



Register to Vote Today!

You must register in order to vote. Your name will be put on the record of people who are eligible to vote. The record is used at the polling place on Election Day.



League of Women Voters of Delaware
2400 West 17th Street, Clash Wing
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WHAT DO I NEED TO REGISTER?

- **Age** – You must be 18 years old on or before the day of the next general election.
- **Citizenship** – You must be a U.S. citizen.
- **Residency** – There is no requirement for length of residence, but you must register no later than the 4th Saturday before a primary or general election. When registering you must show proof of identity and permanent residence in Delaware (driver's license, rent receipt, utility bill, etc.). State and federal laws enable some members of the military, their dependents, and certain other citizens who reside outside the state to register and vote in Delaware.
- **Other** – You must be mentally competent and have no felony convictions that carry a permanent loss of voting privileges. A constitutional change made in 2000 restores the right to some ex-felons five years after completion of the full sentence and full payment of restitution.

WHERE DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

- Online at <http://registertovote.elections.delaware.gov>.
- At any Department of Elections during regular office hours (See directory on back page).
- At any motor vehicle office when applying for or changing information on your driver's license.
- Department of Labor facility when receiving services.
- At any Division of Social Services facility when receiving services.
- At the Division of Training or Vocational Rehabilitation when receiving services.
- At a mobile registration unit. The locations of these units are often reported in the newspaper.
- At a voter registration drive being conducted by an approved group.

YOU CAN ALSO REGISTER BY MAIL

Phone or write the Department of Elections for your county for information and to request that a voter registration application be mailed to you. Certain requirements have been added to comply with the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002. These procedures do not apply to persons who are already registered to vote in Delaware and are updating their name, address, and/or political party affiliation.

When registering by mail or online, include your driver's license number or send a copy of a current form of identification. (A current and valid photo ID that shows your full name; utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address.)

If you vote in person and did not send a copy of your identification when you registered, you will be required to show a current and valid photo identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address.

If you vote by mail, you must submit with the ballot a copy of your current identification as listed above.

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| Registration Deadlines | 2012 Presidential Primary: February 24, 2012 |
| | 2012 Primary Election: August 18, 2012 |
| | 2012 General Election: October 13, 2012 |

Registration is Permanent

Your voter registration is permanent, but it is your personal responsibility to keep the residence and mailing address on your voting record current and updated. To alleviate problems on Election Day, the Delaware code allows changes of name and/or address, even after the registration deadline. You can submit a change of information using the online tool at <http://registertovote.elections.delaware.gov>.

You can be dropped from the voter rolls if the Department of Elections in the county in which you are registered is unable to contact you via mail. Failure to respond to a mailing when requested or the return of department mailing as undeliverable will result in your being placed in an inactive status.

If you do not vote during the period covered by the next two general elections or if you fail to update your address with the Department of Elections after being placed in inactive status, the Board of Elections may remove you from the voting rolls. Once in inactive status and prior to being removed, you are eligible to vote.

PARTY AFFILIATION

If you wish to affiliate with a party, you must do so when you register to vote. If you do not affiliate with any party, you will be registered as "unaffiliated" and will not be able to vote in a primary election. In order to change your official party affiliation, you must submit a voter registration application showing your new party to the Department of Elections for your county.

You must declare or change party affiliation on or before February 24, 2012, before the Presidential Primary and on or before May 25, 2012, before the Primary. (Need to check which primary).

In a primary election, voters registered as Democrats or Republicans select candidates who will represent their respective parties in the general election when two or more candidates from the same party file for the same office. Minor parties do not have primary elections; their candidates are selected by their respective state party conventions.

Cities and/or municipalities, except for Wilmington, hold elections at times other than at the general election. In some cases a city/municipality registration is required. For information, contact municipal officials. You may check each county's election website (listed on back) for election dates and voting hours.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

The Department of Elections sends you a polling place card when you register; after a change in name, address, or party affiliation; or when your polling place is changed. A list of polling places is also published in major newspapers prior to each election. If you need information regarding your election district and the place where you vote, call the Department of Elections for your county, the League of Women Voters, or visit <http://pollingplace.delaware.gov/>. Polls are always open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

WHAT WILL I DO AT THE POLLING PLACE?

Electronic Voting

Upon entering the polling place you will approach the election officer's table, where your registration will be checked. Some persons whose names do not appear on the registration rolls may be able to vote after updating their record with an address or name change or by provisional ballot.

After your registration is checked you will be given a signature card to sign and present to the official at the voting booth. The official will announce your name and, at a primary, your party affiliation.

When you enter the booth, red lights will blink to indicate the offices for which you can vote. To vote for a candidate, touch the "X" in the box to the right containing his or her name. The blinking light will go out and a steady light will appear at your selection.

If you make a mistake or change your mind, simply touch the "X" again. This will cause the steady light to the right of the candidate's name to go out and the blinking light to reappear. You may then select a different candidate.

After you have completed your ballot, push the green "VOTE" button in the lower right corner of the machine. This records your vote. Be sure you check your ballot before pushing the green button.

Write-In Votes

If you wish to cast a write-in vote, touch the block labeled "WRITE-IN." Then press the blinking red light on the upper right next to the slot cover, which will then open. Write the name and pull down the slot cover. Write-in votes are not permitted in primary elections.

Special Assistance

Visually impaired or physically handicapped voters may request aid from a person of their choice or election officials. The machine can be lowered to accommodate persons who use a wheelchair or others, as needed. A child 16 years of age or under may accompany a voter into the voting booth.

Name and Address Update Table

If you are currently registered in Delaware and have moved within the state or changed your name, you will be permitted to vote at your new polling location by checking in at the name and address update table.

Provisional Voting

Poll workers/election officials will inform you that you are eligible to vote by provisional ballot if any of the following conditions exist:

- Your name does not appear on the poll list.
- An official in the Department of Elections for the county determines that you are not an eligible voter or if a court order holds the polls open beyond the normal closing time.

Poll workers/election officials at the poll will give you a provisional ballot, written instructions, and a confidential voting place.

You will be issued a tracking number after completing the provisional ballot to be used to access the status of the individual's ballot at the free access site.

The provisional ballot will only list candidates for federal offices.